



# DPS Chaparral

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April 2002

## Recruiting--it's all about teamwork

By Col. Thomas A. Davis Jr.

In many ways, DPS is now standing at a historic crossroad. Our recruiting efforts over the next few years will play a large role in making sure our future is as bright and storied as our past. We need--and we're counting on--each and every employee to do their part to bring *quality* applicants through our doors.

There is no better recruiting tool than word of mouth advertising from satisfied employees. Your passion for your job and pride in the Department are powerful marketing tools that are not utilized enough. Given our year-round recruiting push, it's more important than ever that we all take an active interest in making sure that the DPS of the future will represent the quality and diversity that we have come to expect and the people of Texas deserve.

The reason for our full-court press on the recruiting front comes down to two major issues. The first is a wave of retirements that is historical in origin. In the late 60s and early 70s, the Legislature dramatically expanded the ranks of the Highway Patrol. Those officers have served the Department with distinction and are now retiring in large numbers after serving 30 some years on the job.

The second factor is the last legislative session increasing the authorized strength of the Highway Patrol by more than 170 troopers. NAFTA and federal funding is expected to bring more License and Weight troopers into the mix.

That means we need to add nearly 500 troopers by Aug. 31, 2003!!! You can see why we need your help.

We recognize that law enforcement all across the United States has seen the numbers of applicants dwindle compared to 10 to 20 years ago, which means we need to work harder and smarter. And while it may be a great challenge, it is also a time of great excitement. The retirements mean many of our finest are leaving, but it has created an unprecedented amount of opportunity for advancement for equally qualified and dedicated personnel. This is also the best opportunity to become a state trooper in more than 30 years. That is the buzz and energy that we need to take to streets of Texas to bring a steady flow of highly qualified and diverse applicants to

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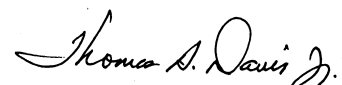
Dear Fellow Employee:

It's been almost seven months since the tragic events of September 11, 2001. Although our nation has moved toward a new "normal," we continue to be affected every day by those events.

Several member of our DPS family are still serving in the armed forces as part of the reserves. Others of us are still suffering the loss of family members in the conflict in Afghanistan and here in the United States.

Many of us are still involved daily in counterterrorism efforts. Remember that, no matter your job title, you have a role to play in this nation's effort to bring terrorists to justice, and to prevent any future attacks on our nation. Stay vigilant, and stay alert.

President Bush recently announced the creation of a volunteer Citizens' Corps to help protect our nation from further terrorist attacks. I encourage you and your family members to participate. You can get more information on the Citizens' Corps on their Web site at <http://www.citizencorps.gov/>, or you can contact the DPS Public Information Office at 512-424-2080. Get involved!



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## Awards

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Sgt./Inv. **Gary Moran**, Narcotics Service Lubbock, was given the Director's Citation for outstanding fieldwork. Moran led a narcotics investigation that lasted for over two years. The investigation of a cocaine smuggling organization resulted in the seizure of 28 pounds of cocaine, nearly five pounds of methamphetamine, \$36,000 in U.S. currency, nine vehicles, three trailers and assorted equipment. The case resulted in 35 arrests and 33 convictions.

Tr. **Robert D. Fuller**, HP Gainesville, earned a Director's Citation for his role in apprehending two Grayson County Jail escapees. Fuller was fired on several times during the siege, yet despite the risk to his own life, he did not retreat. Fuller remained at the scene and provided critical surveillance and containment of the escapees. He personally escorted the Grayson County SWAT team to the rear of the residence where the escapees held the owners hostage. Ultimately, the hostages were released and the escapees captured without a single gun shot from law enforcement.

Tr. **Clinton S. Baughman**, HP Garland, received a Director's Citation for his brave actions in rescu-

ing two young boys and a Rockwell County Deputy from drowning. Intercepting an emergency call from Lake Rockwell, Baughman immediately proceeded to the lake. Joined there by Deputy Mike Donahoe, Baughman observed two boys clinging to an overturned rowboat. The officers swam out to the children, to discover a third boy had already gone under. Baughman took the older boy and Donahoe the youngest, and began swimming back to shore. Before Baughman could even reach shore, the deputy began having trouble himself. After rescuing one child, Baughman returned to help Donahoe and the other boy. Despite his efforts, the third child did not survive.

Rockwell County Deputy Mike Donahoe was awarded a Director's Award for his part in the same rescue. His quick response to the situation and acts of courage, including risk to his own life were crucial to the survival of the children. Donahoe was nominated by Sgt. **George A. Dominguez**, HP Garland.

In late August, Pittsburg PD Officer Richard Penn witnessed a one-vehicle rollover just north of the Pittsburg city limits on U.S. 271. The vehicle caught fire and Officer Penn removed the injured, semi-conscious victim from the vehicle. Without Penn's effort, the driver would not have survived. Penn, nominated by **G.E. Parr**, HP Tyler, received the Director's Award for the bravery and courage that he displayed that night.

Orange County Constable Parker L. Thompson, nominated by

Sgt. **L.C. Wilson**, Texas Rangers Orange, was given the Director's Award for his efforts in talking a suspect out of a hostage situation. The suspect was being escorted to a courtroom from the sheriff's department when he assaulted the bailiff and took her pistol. He then fired two shots; striking a responding deputy. The bailiff was taken hostage and a standoff ensued. Constable Thompson arrived on the scene and developed a rapport with the suspect because of his prior dealings with the man. He convinced the suspect to lay down his pistol and give himself up after only 45 minutes of negotiations.

Andrea G. McAlpin and Sharisse N. Goodman received Director's Awards. McAlpin and Goodman were traveling along IH-20 in Smith County when they witnessed an accident. A truck tractor semi-trailer had changed lanes, forcing a pickup in the other lane to the median where it overturned several times. The semi-trailer did not stop, so McAlpin and Goodman decided to follow it. They did not have a cell phone so they wrote down identifiers about the vehicle. McAlpin exited the interstate and immediately called the authorities. The semi-trailer and driver were located and taken into custody. They were nominated by Tr. **Joseph Hogue**, HP Tyler.

Scot Robertson of Mt. Pleasant received a Director's Award for his actions in rescuing a driver from a burning car. Believed to be inebriated, the driver lost control of his vehicle which then rolled over into a

a ditch. It immediately caught fire. Robertson, who had almost been hit by the car, went immediately to help the driver. Despite a damaged door and the fire, he persisted until he was able to pull the driver to safety. Robertson was nominated by Tr. **R.L. Conarro**, HP Mt. Pleasant.

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### *Short Shots*

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#### **DPS needs support**

New member training for the DPS Critical Incident Response Team will be held from July 9-11. The group helps to assist fellow employees who are dealing with a personal crisis, such as a death in the family. Any Department personnel interested in becoming a new member should submit a letter through their chain-of-command. For an application or more information, contact **Cheryl Iselt** at 512-424-2211.



*On the  
mend...*

*Best wishes for a speedy recovery from line-of-duty injuries go to:*

**Tr. Calvin Wayne Buxton**, Plainview, hit by a suspect vehicle March 13 while deploying spikes.

**Tr. Aristeo Cantu**, HP McAllen, was injured in a roadside altercation with a suspect in November.

**Tr. E.J. Salinas**, L&W Laredo

**Linda Swails**, DL Examiner Carrollton

#### **Northwestern graduate**

Add Lt. **Billy Fulton**, Special Crimes San Antonio, to the recent graduates of the School of Police Staff and Command at the Center for Public Safety of Northwestern University. The 10-week program is designed to prepare management level law enforcement managers and supervisors for senior positions.

#### **Trooper receives award**

SES Tr. **Richard Vasser**, SES Beaumont, received a certificate of recognition from the Safe Communities Southeast Texas. He was given the award for his outstanding service and contributions of time and support towards injury prevention in Southeast Texas.

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### *Mile Markers*

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#### **Promotions**

##### **TLE**

**David Gene Baker**, Capt., HP Midland to Major, TLE Austin; **Steven Gerard Sullivan**, Lt., L&W Houston to Capt., L&W Austin;

**Danny Wade Knauth**, Lt., HP Austin to Capt., Veh. Insp. Austin; **Joel Dean McKinney**, Lt., HP Hurst to Capt., HP Midland;

**Michael Shawn Scullin**, Sgt., HP Hurst to Lt., HP Hurst; **Mario Rafael Salinas**, Sgt., L&W Laredo to Lt., L&W Laredo;

**Elridge John Nunez, Jr.**, Tr. II, L&W Sweetwater to Sgt., L&W El Paso; **Michael Stephen**

**Carlson**, Tr. IV, L&W Corpus Christi to Sgt., L&W Eagle Pass;

**Kelly Jack Smith**, Supv., Comm.

Del Rio to Reg. Supv., Comm. Lubbock; **Catherine Michelle McLean**, Comm. Officer III, Comm. Brownwood to Supv., Comm. Lufkin; **Wanda Faye Ryan**, Comm. Officer III, Comm. Pecos to Supv., Comm. Del Rio.

##### **CLE**

**John Edward Bateman**, Sgt./Inv., Special Crimes Corpus Christi to Lt., Special Crimes El Paso; **Jeffrey James Vajdos**, Tr. II, HP Seguin to Sgt./Inv., Narcotics Bryan;

**Mary Jean Wright**, Tr. II, Capitol Svc. Austin to Sgt./Inv., Narcotics Houston; **Matthew Lewis Baker**, Tr. III, HP Corpus Christi to Sgt./Inv., Special Crimes Corpus Christi;

**Cliff Thomason Manning**, Cpl. II, Veh. Insp. Houston to Sgt./Inv., Special Crimes Corpus Christi.

#### **Texas Rangers**

**Skylor Devillier Hearn**, Sgt./Inv., Narcotics Beaumont to Sgt., Rangers San Antonio; **Freeman Fleming Martin**, Sgt./Inv., Narcotics Houston to Sgt., Rangers Houston;

**Dewayne Alan Dockery**, Sgt., HP Denton to Sgt., Rangers Harlingen; **Don Mack Williams**, Sgt./Inv., Special Crimes Corpus Christi to Sgt., Rangers Midland;

**David Thomas Rainwater**, Sgt., HP Baytown to Sgt., Rangers Pearsall; **Kevin Dwayne Pullen**, Sgt., HP The Woodlands to Sgt., Rangers Conroe;

**Alan Paul Davidson**, Tr. II, HP McKinney to Sgt., Rangers

## Recruiting

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our doorstep.

There has been no shortage of activity toward that end. More than 100 troopers, including a record-tying 17 women, graduated in March from the Training Academy. Another class is set to graduate in July. Work is well underway to fill a class in June and another is tentatively planned for later this year. Things are not expected to slow down next year, with two to three classes possible.

The June recruit class deadline was extended to April 12 to increase the applicant pool, but that's just the start. We want the applications to keep rolling in.

Our new easy to remember toll-free number, 1-866-TXTROOP (898-7667), that is displayed on our black and white units around the state is paying dividends. It rings directly into the recruiting office at DPS Headquarters in Austin and is getting quite a bit of activity.

If you have any creative ideas on how we can add to our recruiting efforts, give our Recruiting Office a call, 512-424-5903. We're counting on you!!

## Mile Markers

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Cleburne; **Peter Dominic Maskunas**, Sgt./Inv., Narcotics Conroe to Sgt., Rangers Conroe; **Stuart Miles Willer, Jr.**, Sgt., HP Paris to Sgt., Rangers Plainview;



Call  
512-424-7777  
for the  
inside scoop!

**Dewayne Orland Goll**, Sgt./Inv., Special Crimes San Marcos to Sgt., Rangers Seguin.

## Retirements

**Elsworth Carl Sherman**, Major, TLE Austin, 33 yrs., 10 mos.;

**Gary Gene Gilbert**, Comm. Operator IV, Comm. Lubbock, 29 yrs., 4 mos., 27 days;

**Roy Lee Boling**, Comm. Tech. III, Fleet Oper. Austin, 29 yrs., 1 mo., 14 days; **Ralph Gerhard Mutchler**, Lt., Narcotics Texas City, 28 yrs., 5 mos., 3 days;

**Allen Ray Akin**, Sgt., HP Gilmer, 27 yrs., 9 mos., 3 days;

**Edna Beatrice Williams**, Secr., MVT San Antonio, 24 yrs., 5 mos.;

**Robert Burley Nestoroff**, Sgt., Narcotics Austin, 20 yrs., 7 mos.;

**Donnie Ray Willingham**, Sgt., HP Sulphur Springs, 30 yrs., 4 mos., 23 days; **John Scott Warren**, Tr. V, HP Ballinger, 28 yrs., 4 mos., 15 days;

**Shirley Campbell Townsend**,

Fingerprint Tech. III, Crime Lab Austin, 29 yrs., 8 mos., 18 days;

**Michael Bradford Parker**, Sgt., HP Canyon, 25 yrs., 4 mos., 17 days; **Virginia Ruth Elich**, Secr., Narcotics Austin, 13 yrs., 5 mos., 24 days;

**Buel Wayne Poston**, Grounds Maint., Bldg. Programs Austin, 7 yrs., 11 mos.; **Wayne Arnold Simmons**, DL Examiner, DL Killeen, 7 yrs., 4 mos., 17 days; **Eluterio Cruz Torres**, Tr. V, HP Bay City, 19 yrs., 1 mo., 24 days.

## Deaths

**Frank Eugene Shown**, HR Spec. IV, Admin. Austin (April 1990-Feb. 2002) died February 28, 2002;

**Oscie Renfrow**, ret. Tr. IV, HP Palestine (March 1949-October 1991) died February 2002;

**Bernard Earl Morgan**, ret. Tr. IV, HP Cleveland (Aug. 1967-March 1993) died February 22, 2002.

## Phony DL ring busted

DPS arrested two University of Texas students on felony charges in connection with a counterfeit driver license operation in Austin in late February. The DPS Vehicle Inspection Service spearheaded the six-week investigation with assistance from the DPS Driver License Division and Special Crimes Service. Highway Patrol troopers participated in executing the search warrant, which yielded various forms of computer equipment that may have been used to make illegal driver licenses.

The initial investigation, which began in Lubbock, centered on licenses used for the illegal purchase of alcohol, but investigators will now determine if any other illegal activity is associated with the case.

"Driver license fraud is a serious crime with potentially far-reaching implications, especially in light of September 11," said Col. **Thomas A. Davis Jr.**, director of DPS. "We take the integrity of the Texas driver license very seriously and will aggressively pursue illegal activity tied to our documents."